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California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Archaeologist Author of "The Rape of the Nile" To Speak Feb. 27 at Cal Poly

SAN LUIS OBISPO - Brian Fagan, author of "The Rape of the Nile: Adventurers and Archaeologists Discover the Pharaohs," will speak at Cal Poly Thursday, Feb. 27.

Fagan, an anthropology professor at UC Santa Barbara, will speak from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Business Building Rotunda (Room 213). The presentation is free and open to the public and is sponsored by Cal Poly's Social Sciences Department and the Social Science Club.

Professor Fagan specializes in world prehistory, Iron Age and Ice Age cultures, and communicating with general audiences about the science and history of archaeology. He's a member of the British Institute in Eastern Africa, the Society for American Archaeology, and the South African Archaeological Society.

He is a Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Association, and a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society.

He has served as director of the Bantu Studies Project at the British Institute of Archaeology in East Africa, and as the director of the Institute for the Study of Developing Nations at UCSB. During his career he has been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, the EDUCOM Award for Teaching Innovation, the Society of Professional Archaeologists' Public Service Award, and the Society for American Archaeology's Presidential Recognition Award.

Fagan was the principal scientist behind "Patterns of the Past," a three-year series on National Public Radio in the 1980s, and continues to be involved in developing PBS television series, including Time/Life's "Lost Civilization" series and The Learning Channel's "Living with Monsters."

A prolific writer, Fagan has published more than 40 books, including both textbooks and non-fiction works, since 1962. "The Rape of the Nile," his most widely read book, has been translated into seven languages. It tells the epic story of how Egyptology began, a tale with a cast of characters including Napoleon, a circus strongman turned tomb robber and a Victorian romantic novelist. He ends with the dramatic discovery of the tomb of the pharaoh Tutankamun.

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